

volunteers began the work in the cemetery in August 2019, cutting down invasive trees and overgrowth, restoring and cleaning of headstones, repairing the drainage system, and fixing the perimeter retaining wall. After four years of hard work, they have nearly completed this extensive project.

The Mare Island Naval Cemetery, the oldest naval cemetery on the West Coast, is home to over 860 soldiers, marines, and sailors who served in conflicts such as the War of 1812 and World War I. It is also home to dozens of their relatives who are interred there. The work of the 801st Engineer Construction Company has allowed us to restore this cemetery back to a sacred final resting place for our brave men and women in uniform and their families.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that the 801st Engineer Construction Company has played a vital role in ensuring the Mare Island Naval Cemetery is preserved for generations to come. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the company and its soldiers here today.

TRIBUTE TO RON CORTOPASSI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SPACE LAUNCH DELTA 30 VANDENBERG SPACE FORCE BASE

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ron Cortopassi, Executive Director of Space Launch Delta 30, Vandenberg Space Force Base. Ron has served diligently for 39 years, beginning his career at Vandenberg Air Force Base in 1983 as a Flight Safety Analyst, Safety Office, Western Space Missile Center, 30th Space Wing. In 1990, he was promoted to Chief, Operations Safety Analysis. Then in 1992, Ron was chosen to be Chief, Flight Analysis Office. In 2000, Ron was once again promoted to Chief Engineer. His career culminated in being chosen the Executive Director of the 30th Space Wing, Vandenberg Air Force Base, which later was renamed as Space Launch Delta 30, Vandenberg Space Force Base. In his role as Executive Director, he worked directly with Space Launch Delta 30's Commander and provided continuity of senior management, offered technical advice and counsel for policy and direction for Vandenberg Space Force Base. Additionally, he oversaw the health and wellness of the civilian component of Vandenberg Space Force Base and ensured that Space Launch Delta 30 functions as a world-class range and test facility. Ron also served as the Executive Secretary for the Safe Training System Flight Termination Criteria Evaluation Committee, developer of the Safe Training System Range Safety Display and lead flight safety analyst for the 30th Space Wing's first Titan IV launch. Furthermore, Ron wrote collision avoidance software, terminal area hazard and caution area determination software, ship-hit probability software, and general mapping software for the use by the flight safety analyst. Ron is a product of Central Coast education, by graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California.

Madam Speaker, Ron Cortopassi leaves Vandenberg Space Force Base in a strong place, well prepared to continue its mission for missile testing, range operations, and provide installation infrastructure necessary to place satellites into polar orbit. I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing immense gratitude to Ron Cortopassi for his extraordinary leadership on the occasion of his retirement.

HONORING TANNER HRENCHIR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tanner Hrenchir. Tanner recently competed in the U.S. Special Olympics placing 1st in the deadlift competition, 2nd in the squat competition, 3rd in the bench, and 2nd overall.

Tanner has been engaged in sports for essentially his entire life, competing in flag football, basketball, and power lifting. He is a dedicated athlete, having clinched a spot in the national games on 3 different occasions. Tanner hasn't let Down syndrome prevent him from following his passions and succeeding. Tanner's parents, and everyone else, are blessed to have such a fine young man in their lives. His story is an inspiration of will and determination that sets an incredibly high bar for those who have the privilege of knowing him.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking Tanner for his accomplishments and dedication that proudly represent the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I am proud to represent Tanner Hrenchir in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING VETERAN HENRY R. CASTRO

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of World War II and Vietnam veteran, Mr. Henry R. Castro. A San Antonio native, Mr. Castro has dedicated his life to service, community, and country. Please join me in recognizing the story of this extraordinary American.

Henry R. Castro was born on April 26, 1927. The son of a butcher and grocer, Juan and Maria Castro, he grew up learning about hard work. On June 12, 1945, Mr. Castro enlisted into the United States Army and was assigned to the 78th Infantry Division, being deployed to Berlin, Germany. On November 29, 1946, Mr. Castro was honorably discharged as a Private First Class under HQ Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry. As Cold War tensions rose, Mr. Castro heard the call of duty and reenlisted into the U.S. Army on August 21, 1948, and shortly thereafter was deployed to Trieste, Italy. There, he was assigned to the T.R.U.S.T. troops in the Italian Alps tasked with defending Trieste against then Communist Yugoslavia. He was later honorably discharged on June 27, 1950.

In 1951, Mr. Castro was hired on at Kelly Air Force Base serving as a Civil Service Employee and later at Brooks Air Force Base. During his civil service tenure, Mr. Castro also served in the Air Force Reserves for more than 7 years under the 433rd Troop Carrier Wing. In the summer of 1967 due to his reserve status, he was recalled into active duty during the Vietnam War and during the North Korean's capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo. He remained on active duty until his retirement date of June 1, 1984. Mr. Castro retired as a U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant.

For his service in the armed forces in defense of our nation, Mr. Castro received the following: World War II Victory Medal and Ribbon, Overseas Service Bar, Army of Occupation Medal Germany, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with Four Devices, American Campaign Medal, European—African—Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Four Oak Leaf Cluster, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with Three Devices, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent someone of such high caliber. On behalf of Texas' 20th Congressional District, I thank Mr. Castro for his commitment and patriotism. I also thank Mr. Castro for everything he has done in-service to our great Nation. May God bless him and his loved ones.

CELEBRATION OF LEXINGTON, MISSOURI'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the bicentennial of Lexington, Missouri. For two hundred years, Lexington has stood as a proud, historic city filled with hardworking people who embody the American Dream. As the people of Lexington gather to celebrate their bicentennial, let us take a moment to reflect on the town's rich history.

Located on the Missouri River, Lexington was first platted in 1822. Founded by Gilead Rupe, the town was established from a river port and grew as a result of trade along the Big Muddy. Lexington was named after Lexington, Kentucky, as many of the city's early settlers ventured from the Bluegrass State. Lexington soon became the county seat of Lafayette County.

In 1861, the town found itself at the center of the Civil War, as the Show-Me State split its support between the Union and the Confederacy. Between September 19th and September 21st of that year, the town became engulfed in the First Battle of Lexington Missouri, colloquially titled the Battle of the Hemp Bales. As Blue and Gray forces clashed, the Lafayette County Courthouse was struck with a cannonball, where it remains lodged in the building's eastern-most column to this day. Another landmark from the battle, the Oliver Anderson House, served as a Union hospital for the remainder of the war.

Lexington's history goes beyond the Civil War. Migrants traveled through the town on

the Santa Fe, Oregon, and the California trails. The town was also home to the headquarters of the trade firm of Russell, Majors, and Waddell, the founders of the Pony Express. Historic homes dot the town, including Linwood Lawn. The manor was described as "the largest and most palatial home west of St. Louis" by the local newspaper when it was constructed in 1859. Today, after refurbishment, it is still a shining example of a historic, antebellum home. The rich history of Lexington is something its citizens are proud of and uphold. Indeed, history such as this is important at demonstrating the narrative of the town and our nation.

Lexington has been home to various academic institutes over time. Throughout the 1800s, multiple institutions for women were opened: including the Elizabeth Aull Seminary, Lexington Ladies' College, and Central College. In 1880, Wentworth Military Academy opened its doors, and throughout its operation, welcomed students from around the world. Wentworth became one of the oldest operating military academies west of the Mississippi River and remained open until 2017. Throughout its history, Wentworth produced many celebrated alumni, including the late Congressman Ike Skelton and two Medal of Honor recipients. Meanwhile, the Lexington School District continues to provide students with ample opportunities to succeed in academics, fine arts, and athletics.

The city is home to industry and scenery that best exemplify our state and what it means to be a Missourian. From Lexington's blufftop view of the Missouri River to the surrounding farmland, one can see the lush beauty that defines the area. Lexington's surrounding farms, orchards, and vineyards offer bountiful harvests every year. And with over one hundred businesses in town, its economic activity is as fervent as ever.

This historic town has been an important part of our nation's narrative; home to hard-working, genuine people that exemplify the best of Missouri. For two hundred years, Lexington has demonstrated the spirit of Missouri and America. Madam Speaker, please join me and my constituency in honoring Lexington for two hundred years of community and success, and in wishing them great prosperity in the future.

HONORING AL MONTNA OF DUCKS UNLIMITED

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Al Montna, a true champion of conservation in Northern California. Al's involvement with Ducks Unlimited began in the early 1960s when his natural love for waterfowl hunting drew him to the organization. Like many avid waterfowl hunters, Al realized early on that his passion could only be preserved and shared with future generations through conservation.

Al began restoring the intricate web of wetlands and uplands that North America's migratory birds rely on each year to fulfill their life cycle needs. Al continually improves the wildlife habitat on his own farm, transforming

Montna Farms every fall and winter into a migratory bird wonderland. If you've traveled on highway 99 just outside of Yuba City between November and January, chances are, you've witnessed dozens of cars pulled over on the side of the road, with passengers leaning out the window using binoculars and cameras to glimpse the tens of thousands of waterfowl swarming around his rice fields. Thanks to dedicated conservationists like Al, people will be able to enjoy the wildlife of this region for years to come.

As is the case with most family farms, and certainly with Montna Farms, Al has been blessed with a family that has a shared vision for what it means to be good stewards of the land. His two daughters, Nicole Montna Van Fleck and Michelle Montna Vogt share the family's passion for the environment and being stewards of a more sustainable world. Today, they have begun to pass that same passion to Al's six grandchildren. And of course, none of these achievements would have been possible without Gail Montna, Al's wife and partner for 55 years. Gail's grace and shared love of wildlife shines through all of Montna Farms; past, present and future.

As a third generation Central Valley farmer, Al's commitment to the land as well as the people and wildlife that depend on it is unmatched. As the Bible tells us in Luke 12:48, To those much is given, much will be required. The responsibility to give back to his community has been the forefront of Al's mission since it began nearly 60 years ago. Now, after many decades of committed volunteer service to conservation, Al is retiring as the Senior Vice President for Public Policy at Ducks Unlimited—a role he took over in 2017. Al's professional endeavors, awards, successes, innovations and accomplishments are far too numerous to list here. However, Al's greatest achievement is his role as a steward for America's wetlands and waterfowl resources, and that legacy will endure for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID DICKSON

HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David Dickson. Utah lost a wonderful father and a man of faith. David was just forty-two years old when he died late last month due to medical complications, and he leaves behind his eight children. As a single father, David devoted his life to ensuring his children could have full and prosperous lives.

Born and raised in Ogden, Utah, David was a man of the community. He graduated from Ogden High School and Weber State University—both of which I also attended. His life took him from Utah to Arizona to Idaho, where his family resides to this day. Despite difficulty in his most recent years, David was resolute in his determination to provide a bright future for his children and family.

David's eight children are between the ages of seven and eighteen years old. He was a devoted father who loved his children deeply. David will be dearly missed, and our community will continue to lift his family up in prayer.

REMEMBERING HORTON ALEXANDER "COTTON" ROSSER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Horton Alexander "Cotton" Rosser. Passing away at the age of 93, Mr. Rosser leaves behind an indelible legacy in the rodeo world as a champion saddle bronc rider and owner of Flying U Rodeo Company, the oldest rodeo livestock company in the United States.

In the 1950s, he made a name for himself in the rodeo world as a champion saddle bronc rider, including a prominent victory at the Reno Rodeo in 1950. Unfortunately, his competitive rodeo career abruptly ended in 1956 when a ranch accident left him with two broken legs.

However, Mr. Rosser remained an integral part of the rodeo world as the country's premier rodeo rancher. In 1956, he bought the Flying U Rodeo Company, supplying rodeo animals and livestock. Over several decades, Mr. Rosser and his family built Flying U, based in Marysville, California, into one of the most successful stock contracting firms in professional rodeo.

In addition to stock contracting, Flying U produced around 50 rodeos annually; Mr. Rosser and his company became known for their outstanding rodeo productions. The showmanship of his rodeo opening ceremonies presented at the National Finals Rodeo, the Houston Livestock Show, and the Grand National Rodeo in San Francisco raised the profile of the sport.

Mr. Rosser was inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in 1995 and honored with a half-sized bronze statue in front of the Reno Sparks Livestock Events Center commissioned by past presidents of the Reno Rodeo Association. The statue remains a lasting tribute to Mr. Rosser's work as a longtime rodeo producer. In the same year, he became the first-ever Triple Crown winner at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. The Western Fairs Association inducted Mr. Rosser into their Hall of Fame in 2014 for his incredible work supporting the fair industry. In 2015, Mr. Rosser received the PRCA Donita Barnes Contract Personnel Lifetime Achievement Award.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Rosser's loved ones. I know that they, along with the rodeo community, join me in celebrating his life and legacy.

HONORING OFFICER ORLANDO BOLDEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable police officer, Orlando Bolden.

Officer Bolden is a native of Grenada, MS. He began his career with the Grenada County Sheriff's Department as a reserve deputy. He then moved to Duck Hill and worked for the Duck Hill Police Department.